

# Morgan County Commission

## Meeting Minutes

### March 11, 2010

Members Present: Thomas Swaim, Brenda Hutchinson and Stacy Dugan

The meeting was opened by Debra Kesecker, County Clerk 9:35 a.m.

#### ADMINISTRATION ITEMS:

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission approved the meeting minutes from the March 4, 2010 County Commission meeting and the March 5 and 9, 2010 County Commission budget meetings. This motion carried.

#### Animal Control Officer Contract

Jody McClintock, County Administrator, approached the Commission regarding a contract for the Animal Control Officer, Holly Jack. The contract is an agreement regarding a training course Ms. Jack will attend in April at Windsor Locks, CT. The Commission discussed and decided that it will be more economical for Ms. Jack to drive the county vehicle to the training course in Windsor Lock, CT. The class is scheduled for April 12-16, 2010.

#### Trailers

Aaron Robertson, Buildings Assistant, approached the Commission and presented a handout of information regarding selling the courthouse trailers on the internet auction website GovDeals.com. Mr. Robertson explained the process of selling the trailers on the website. Mr. Robertson reviewed the handout and explained that it listed sales of similar trailers. The Commission reviewed the handout. Mr. Robertson explained that according to the terms of the Gov deals site, a 5% mark up is added to the final bid for the GovDeals service. Mr. Robertson explained that if anyone is unable to bid through the site, the Commission may reserve the right to accept and post local bids on behalf of the local bidder. Mr. Robertson agreed to consult with GovDeals representatives to find out if the County Commission will get charged 5% if they would post a bid for a local bidder. Mr. Robertson will follow up with the Commission.

#### Aaron Robertson- Courthouse Construction Change Order

Aaron Robertson, Buildings Assistant, approached the Commission with a courthouse change order. Mr. Robertson explained that the change order includes a cost savings for the deletion of Family Court Gallery knee wall and additional costs to extend several drywall partitions to deck above. Mr. Robertson also explained that there are 23 days of additional time to the contract due to delays in getting the spray fireproofing questions answered by the WV Fire Marshal. The date of substantial completion will change from April 3, 2010 to April 26, 2010. On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission authorizes its president, Brenda J. Hutchinson to sign the courthouse change order #14 in the amount of \$951.00. This motion carried.

#### Budget

The County Commission discussed the budget and the option to give county employees a raise. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she would like to leave the levy rate at

98.25%. Commissioner Hutchinson explained that she believes the Commission should keep the levy rate low due to an uncertain economy and the increased burden on taxpayers if the levy is increased. Commissioner Hutchinson stated that she would like to give the county employees a 1.5% raise.

Commissioner Dugan stated that she agrees with leaving the levy rate at 98.25% but she is against a pay increase for the employees. Commissioner Dugan explained that these are uncertain times especially with the move into the new courthouse and people are not getting pay increases. Commissioner Dugan stated that the employees got a 27th pay this year.

Commissioner Swaim stated that he does not understand how the 27th pay has anything to do with the pay increase. Commissioner Swaim stated that the employees worked the hours for the pay and they earned the pay. Commissioner Swaim stated that we have dedicated employees that come to work early, they don't miss work and are dependable. Commissioner Swaim stated that he will stand up for the employees and votes to give them a 3% raise. Commissioner Swaim also stated that by not raising the levy rate just a little bit may cause problems for the next budget year. The Commission discussed the increases and could not come to a decision. The Commission will make a decision at the March 25, 2010 County Commission meeting.

#### AGENDA ITEMS:

##### Charles Trump- Estate of Philip McCoy

Charles Trump approached the Commission and requested that the County Commission set a hearing date to decide whether or not to accept the Codicil to the Last Will and Testament of Philip S. McCoy, Sr. Mike Scales, representing Sandra McCoy, suggested having a hearing and stated that he intends to subpoena Dr. Hashem to testify. Charles Trump stated that he agreed a hearing is needed to have witnesses testify. The Commission agreed to have a hearing. Charles Trump will get a court reporter to attend to report the hearing. A hearing date will be set and the family members will be notified.

##### Bill McAudrey with Pitney Bowes

Mr. McAudrey, representing Pitney Bowes, approached the Commission regarding a postage machine for the new courthouse. Mr. McAudrey explained that the postage machine that the Sheriff's Tax Office is currently using will work in the new courthouse. Mr. McAudrey explained that each office will have a code to be inserted before they scan the mail. Commissioner Hutchinson requested that Mr. McAudrey find out the length of the current contract for the postage machine currently in the Sheriff's Tax Office. Mr. McAudrey will follow up with the Commission regarding the postage machine.

##### Peggy Miller- Berkeley Springs State Park Historical Foundation Funds Request & Review

Peggy Miller, representing the Berkeley Springs State Park Historical Foundation approached the Commission to give a budget update on the Berkeley Springs State Park.

Ms. Miller explained that there has been vandalism in the park and the foundation would like to install security cameras. Ms. Miller also explained that future plans include the wall repair and bridge replacement. Ms. Miller stated that the foundation plans to continue fund raising projects to help raise money for the bridge replacement. Ms. Miller requested funds in the amount of \$3000.00. The Commission explained that during the months of June and December, the funds requests are reviewed; and the Commission will review the request at that time. The Commission thanked Ms. Miller for her time.

##### Steve Rawlings- WV Risk Pool Insurance Update

Steve Rawlings, representing the WV Risk Pool Insurance, approached the Commission to

give an insurance update. Mr. Rawlings explained that there are currently 32 county related entities in the pool. Mr. Rawlings explained that the insurance pool collects 4.4 million dollars in dues used to fund the pool and pay for claims. Mr. Rawlings will follow up with a renewal report for the Commission.

#### Vernon Brinegar- Group Health Insurance Review

Vernon Brinegar and Tracy Hedrick, representing Blue Cross Blue Shield of the Mountain State Insurance, approached the Commission to give a health insurance review. Mr. Brinegar presented a renewal notice to the Commission for review. Mr. Brinegar also presented a renewal sheet comparing the rates from the last 9 years and explained that there has been less than a 6% rate increase in the past 9 years. Mr. Brinegar reviewed the plans with the Commission, and the possible changes to keep the lowest premium. Mr. Brinegar stated that the renewal is due on May 1, 2010. The Commission reviewed and discussed the premium and possible changes. Mr. Brinegar explained that the majority of his clients had increased the deductible on the major medical portion of employee insurance to \$1000 on individual policies and \$2000 on family policies. Mr. Brinegar stated that only 5% of Blue Cross Blue Shield participants have a \$500 deductible. On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission agreed to go with the individual plan increasing the deductible to \$1000 on major medical and the family plan increasing the deductible to \$2000 to eliminate the 9% increase in the insurance premium for the county and employees. All other benefits would remain the same. This motion carried.

#### Bill Shires- Conference Telephone Call regarding Osteopathic Medicine

Neil McLaughlin, representing the War Memorial Hospital approached the Commission and stated that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new hospital on June 4, 2010. Bill Shires and Lorenzo Pence called by telephone for a conference call with the Commission and Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Shires explained that the telephone call was to discuss the possibility of placing an Osteopathic Center in the old hospital building once the new hospital is built. Mr. Shires explained that the building can be used for clinic space, a library and a residency program. The Commission discussed the option of having an Osteopathic program in the hospital building. The Commission agreed to meet with representatives from the Osteopathic Medicine at the hospital groundbreaking on June 4, 2010.

#### Adjournment

On a Stacy Dugan/Thomas Swaim motion, the County Commission adjourned the meeting at 1:13 p.m. This motion carried.